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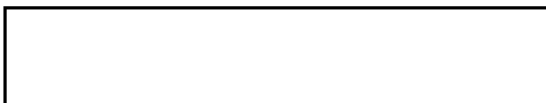
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State Dept. review completed

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CSCE-EC

The EC foreign ministers on Tuesday responded with a qualified "yes" to Soviet party leader Brezhnev's recent letter proposing a summit meeting in Helsinki on July 22. The foreign ministers said a summit at the end of July is "desirable and possible"—if a number of outstanding issues at the European security conference can be resolved quickly.

Soviet concessions in the past month have facilitated agreement on a number of substantive problems, particularly those concerning increased East-West contacts and exchanges of information. This week, Western and Soviet delegates reached agreement on another point of contention—Allied rights in Germany and Berlin. The representatives of the neutral states must still accept the agreed text, and it is likely that they will do so eventually.

Agreement must still be reached on several major issues, including advance notification of military maneuvers and the type and frequency of follow-on meetings. The West Europeans believe that Moscow's desire to have a summit in July will lead the Soviets to make concessions on these issues, which, the West Europeans insist, must be resolved before they give final agreement to the summit.

A compromise is likely soon on the issue of providing advance notification of maneuvers. After months of negotiations, East and West have a similar position on how much advance notice must be provided and on the size of the maneuvers and will probably split the difference on the extent of Soviet territory that will be affected.

They are still far apart on follow-on meetings. The EC countries support a Danish proposal that calls for senior officials to meet in the second half of 1977 to determine whether the conference's decisions have been implemented. In addition, the EC states agree that there could be ad hoc meetings of experts, provided a consensus develops for such meetings.

The Soviets want to follow up the conference with fairly frequent meetings in which all aspects of detente are examined, although they are chary of giving the small countries too much of a voice. At the same time, Moscow wants to minimize or remove completely the chance that it might be held accountable for implementation of the conference's decisions. The Soviets also hope to get an eventual commitment to another, full-scale European security conference.

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A compromise on follow-on meetings may prove elusive and time consuming. The Turkish demand that the Turkish Cypriot community be represented in the Cypriot delegation to a summit and Ankara's objections to the presence there of Cypriot President Makarios remain possible stumbling blocks. Western delegates seriously doubt that Makarios can be persuaded to absent himself.

If there is to a summit in July, the delegates in Geneva will be under the gun to resolve the outstanding issues. The Finns have said that they require four-weeks advance notice to complete preparations for a summit.

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INDIA

The Indian government, invoking the country's national security act, declared a state of emergency and arrested scores of opposition politicians early this morning. The severity of the crackdown is unprecedented in recent years.

Among those arrested are J. P. Narayan, Prime Minister Gandhi's foremost critic and leader of the opposition movement; Raj Naraian, whose suit against Mrs. Gandhi resulted in her recent conviction on charges of corrupt election practices; and Morarji Desai, a former deputy prime minister who broke with the Ruling Congress Party in 1969.

Press accounts indicate that the arrests number over 100 and include communist as well as non-communist politicians, and at least one newspaper editor. The arrests reportedly were made in several areas of the country.

The opposition began demanding Mrs. Gandhi's immediate resignation following the Supreme Court justice's ruling on Tuesday that she could remain in office pending a decision of the full court on an appeal of her conviction. Narayan and Desai participated in a rally calling for her resignation only hours before their arrest. Opposition leaders had been planning a nationwide protest campaign to begin this weekend.

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SOUTH KOREA

The increased security precautions imposed on government agencies Tuesday continue and are most likely related to yesterday's anniversary of the Korean war.

The increased vigilance is designed to improve the country's preparedness, as well as to highlight the threat from the North. President Pak is also citing the threat as justification for a series of firm measures aimed at silencing his political opposition. All leaves have been canceled and one fifth of all government employees are required to be on duty around the clock.

Because of recent events in Southeast Asia and North Korean President Kim Il-song's sudden visit to Peking, Pak has taken steps to place South Korea on a near wartime footing. He has ordered that military defenses be improved and has outlawed virtually all criticism of the government. In addition, national security rallies have been held and funds for defense raised. Civil defense preparations also have been increased and, beginning in September, all high school and college students will engage in military training. A 3.5-million-member national civil defense corps has been proposed.

Army units northwest of Seoul also have increased their alert status, following the discovery of two suspected North Korean agent caches in an area previously used as an infiltration route. The caches, uncovered on June 19 and 21, contained such items as pistols and hand grenades.

There is genuine concern in South Korean government circles that North Korea will undertake some form of military action, but the US embassy in Seoul believes President Pak is exaggerating the situation. Pak's actions in recent months are probably designed to impress the South Korean people with the seriousness of the threat, demonstrate the South's determination to respond to all contingencies, and curb political dissent.

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CHILE

President Pinochet's recent tough condemnation of political activity marks his strongest warning to date that the junta will not brook criticism or opposition from any quarter.

Pinochet said publicly that there would be no elections and warned that defiance of the ban on political activity would cause the government to abolish the surviving political parties.

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Pinochet charged this week that politicians were scheming to divide the military leadership and to create a joint civilian-military government. He stated flatly that this would be a "rotten system and does not interest us."

The main target of Pinochet's public statements is obviously former president Frei and his Christian Democratic Party. Frei irritated the government last month by criticizing its economic program. His remarks touched off a wave of controversy and speculation about the acceptable limits of dissent and quickly put the government on the defensive. The sharp retorts by government spokesmen have since made it clear that the military is unwilling to tolerate increased political expression—even to a limited extent—and that it is fervently opposed to reconciliation with the Christian Democratic Party, which, like other non-Marxist parties, has been declared "in recess."

The sensitivity of government leaders to criticism of the economic recovery measures betrays their fear that problems will worsen as winter intensifies hardships in the country.

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As a result, opposition of any sort touches a raw nerve and is apt to lead to overreaction on the military's part.

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USSR: The Leningrad, one of two Soviet helicopter carriers, left the Black Sea on June 25, apparently for operations in the Mediterranean. The Leningrad last departed home waters in June 1974, when it headed for the Indian Ocean. The ship later took part in Soviet mine-clearing operations in the Red Sea and returned to the Black Sea in December. The Leningrad's sister ship, the Moskva, remains in the Black Sea.

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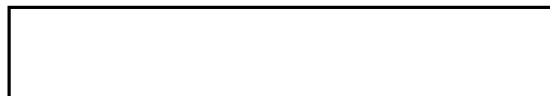
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